

30 June 75

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
VIA: Deputy Director for Operations
SUBJECT: Vietnamese Refugees

1. This memorandum is a status report on EA Division's efforts to assist Vietnamese refugees who have written to you. It has been prepared in response to your request.

2. The Division has encountered two basic problems in attempting to take action to help the Vietnamese who wrote to you.

a. We experienced considerable difficulty in locating most of the correspondents primarily because the locator system established by the Special Interagency Task Force (SITF) has proven unsatisfactory. Apparently, the computerized locator is improperly programmed for in a recent test we received less than 40% hits on names of individuals whom we knew to be in the system. We also pressed the search for your correspondents through CIA representatives in the relocation centers but these efforts have not been notably successful either.

b. There is a problem in determining when and how to intervene in the refugee resettlement system to assist. In some cases the individuals who have written to you have written to numerous other former contacts seeking sponsorship. Thus there is a possibility that the refugee's problems already have been solved by others. Furthermore, the SITF is locating sponsors and jobs for large numbers of Vietnamese and it is likely that many of the individuals who wrote to you already have been cared for through SITF channels.

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3. We are continuing to work on the problems of locating the Vietnamese who wrote to you and determining their status and if they still need help. Once this information is obtained, we expect to be able to arrange, [REDACTED] for those Vietnamese who still need assistance to be given appropriate job counseling and help in obtaining a sponsor.

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4. In order to speed up the handling of the Vietnamese refugees who wrote to you, future cases will be processed as follows:

a. When you receive a letter requesting assistance and forward it to EA Division for action, we will within two days submit a response for your signature advising the refugee of our faith in the SITF system but at the same time giving him an accommodation address to write to in the event his difficulties are not resolved through normal refugee assistance programs.

b. The EA Division representative in the camp housing the refugee will try to make contact with him to assure him that we are interested in his progress.

c. We will monitor the individual's progress through SITF processing and if after three months the system has not been able to move the individual out of the camp or to place him, then the Division will undertake, [REDACTED] to locate a sponsor or employment at a cost not to exceed \$2,000 per case.

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5. When you forward future letters to EA Division for action, it would be helpful if you would indicate whether you do or do not wish action taken within the framework indicated above.

6. The following information pertains to those letters thus far sent to EA Division for action:

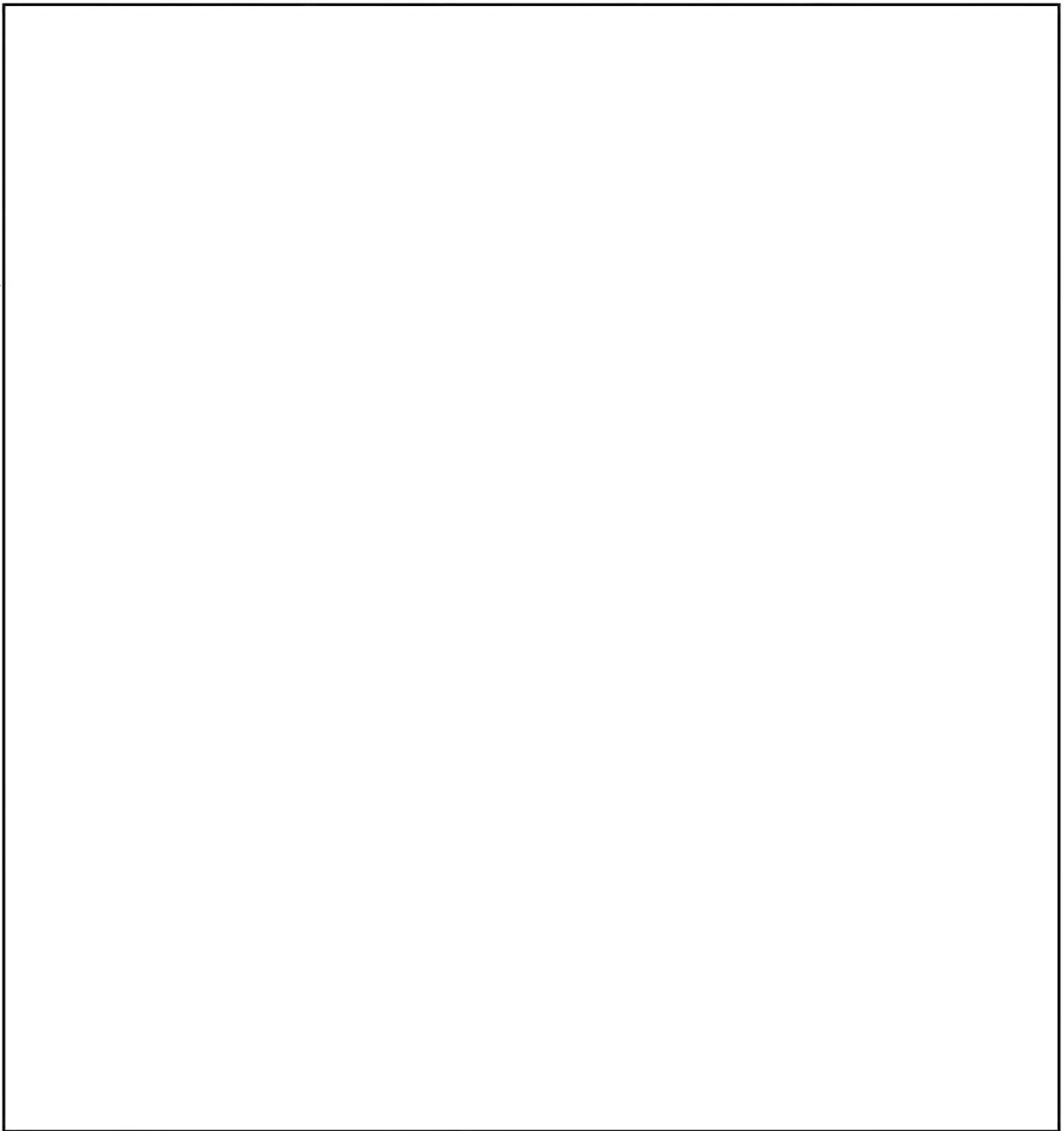
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Approved For Release 2004/10/28 : CIA-RDP80M01066A001100090002-1

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Approved For Release 2004/10/28 : CIA-RDP80M01066A001100090002-1



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Chief, East Asia Division

cc: DDGJ